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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Taeniophallus affinis (Günther, 1858) (Squamata, Serpentes, Dipsadidae): Distribution extension, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: *Taeniophallus affinis* (Dipsadidae) has a distribution restricted to the Brazilian Atlantic Forest. We collected a male specimen at Parque Municipal de Sertão, state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. This record extends the distribution of the species ca. 118 km S; it was previously known only from the northeastern part of the state.

Taeniophallus affinis (Günther 1858) is a snake of the family Dipsadidae with a wide distribution in the Atlantic Forest of southeastern and southern Brazil (Di-Bernardo and Lema 1988; Di-Bernardo 1992). It occurs from the southeastern part of the state of Minas Gerais to the states of Espírito Santo, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Paraná, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul. The southernmost record of this species is from the northeastern part of the state of Rio Grande do Sul (Di-Bernardo and Lema 1988; Di-Bernardo 1992). The natural history of *T. affinis* is poorly documented; it is terrestrial, living amidst leaf litter and its diet consists of anurans and lizards (Marquez *et al*. 2001; Condez *et al.* 2009; Zacariotti and Gomes 2010).

FIGURE 1. A male specimen of *Taeniophallus affinis* (CRUPF 1698; SVL = 502 mm) eating a frog (*Physalaemus gracilis*) collected in Sertão, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Photograph by N. Zanella.

We report an adult male specimen of *Taeniophallus affinis* (CRUPF 1698, Coleção de Répteis da Universidade de Passo Fundo, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; SVL = 502 mm; tail length = 141 mm; 48.0 g; Figure 1) collected from a pitfall trap in the Parque Natural Municipal de Sertão (28°02'31" S, 52°13'28" W; 670 m elevation), state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil (collection permit IBAMA #14543-1). This new record from the northern part of the state extends the distribution of *T. affinis* ca. 118 km S, from the nearest known locality (Veranópolis, 28°55'59" S, 51°32'59" W, 680 m elevation; formerly Alfredo Chaves; Figure 2).

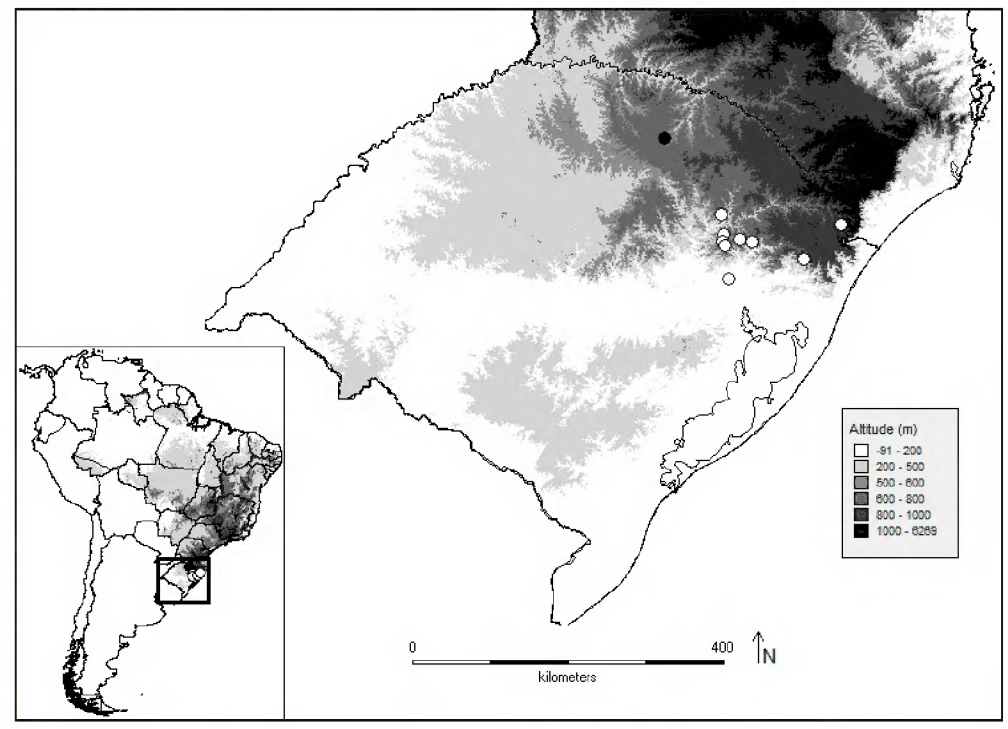

FIGURE 2. Distribution map for *Taeniophallus affinis*. Open circles represent previous distribution records, and the closed circle the new occurrence.

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